

Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

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DRAFTED BY:SCA/SCS/AMLONON/AML

APPROVED BY:SCA/SCS:RDBELT

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P 091631Z DEC 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO SSA/BALTIMORE

UNCLAS STATE 299411

FOLLOWING REPEAT BRIDGETOWN 2418 ACTION SECSTATE DTD 08 DEC 76.

QTE: UNCLAS BRIDGETOWN 2418

E.O. 11652 N/A

TAGS: CFED

SUBJ: SOCIAL SECURITY VALIATION SURVEY

REF: STATE A-5654

1. EMBASSY HAS NO OBJECTION TO PROPOSED SOCIAL SECURITY SURVEY TEAM VISIT AND WILL BE HAPPY TO ASSIST AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE. SUGGEST TEAM COMMENCE ITS SURVEY IN BARBADOS AND THEN PROCEED TO THE OTHER ISLAND GROUPS.

2. WE NOTE THAT SURVEY TEAM WILL BE IN GENERAL AREA FOR ABOUT THREE MONTHS BEGINNING MARCH 1, 1977. IT WOULD BE VERY HELPFUL TO RECEIVE INFORMATION REGARDING THE DATES UPON WHICH MEMBERS OF THE TEAM(S) WILL ACTUALLY BE OPERATING IN THIS CONSULAR DISTRICT. SPECIFICALLY, THE DATES UPON WHICH VISITS WILL BE MADE TO THE BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS, THE LEEWARD ISLANDS (ANGUILLA, ST. KITTS-NEVIS, MONTserrat AND ANTIGUA), THE WINDWARDS (DOMINICA, ST. LUCIA, ST. VINCENT AND GRENADA) AND TO BARBADOS SHOULD BE MADE KNOWN TO EMBASSY TO PERMIT US TO PROVIDE ESTIMATES OF COSTS OF TRANSPORTATION IN THE VARIOUS

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ISLANDS AND BETWEEN THE ISLANDS OF THE DISTRICT. THE

TOURIST SEASON IN THIS AREA RUNS FROM DECEMBER TO APRIL AND DURING THIS PERIOD PRACTICALLY EVERYTHING COSTS MORE THAN IN THE ISLAND GROUPS SO THAT AUTHORIZATIONS CAN BE OBTAINED FROM THE SEVERAL GOVTS INVOLVED AND HOTEL RESERVATIONS CAN BE REQUESTED.

3. SINCE EMBASSY IS PHYSICALLY SITUATED IN BRIDGETOWN ON ISLAND OF BARBADOS, HOPE SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION REALIZES THAT FACILITIES SUCH AS WORKSPACE, ACCESS TO POUCH, COMMUNICATIONS AND CONSULAR FILES WOULD ONLY BE POSSIBLE WHEN TEAM IS ACTUALLY OPERATING IN BARBADOS, ALTHOUGH TELEPHONE, INTERNATIONAL MAIL AND COMMERCIAL CABLE FACILITIES ARE AVAILABLE IN ALL OF THE OTHER ISLANDS AND COULD BE USED TO COMMUNICATE WITH EMBASSY OR WITH BALTIMORE.

4. UPON RECEIPT OF ABOVE INFORMATION, EMBASSY WILL PROVIDE REPLIES BY OM TO QUESTIONS RAISED IN AIRGRAM.

WOOLLONS

UNQTE: ROBINSON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 09 DEC 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976STATE299411
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: SCA/SCS/AMLONON/AML
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760455-0629
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19761257/aaaabxfo.tel
Line Count: 81
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN SCSE
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 STATE A-5654
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: wolfsd
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03 JUN 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <03 JUN 2004 by hattaycs>; APPROVED <04 AUG 2004 by wolfsd>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SOCIAL SECURITY VALIATION SURVEY
TAGS: CFED
To: SSA
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006